

Message Text

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21

ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-01

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R 312321Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3803

INFO FAA BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CDG AIRPORT ISSUE

1. AIR FRANCE'S NORTH ATLANTIC TRAFFIC IS BEING MOVED TO CHARLES DE GAULLE AIRPORT AS AGREED EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1. WITH THIS MOVE ABOUT 65 PERCENT OF AIR FRANCE'S TOTAL OPERATIONS WILL BE LOCATED AT CDG.

2. TWA INFORMALLY APPROACHED US RECENTLY TO COMPLAIN THAT CONNECTING SERVICES WOULD STILL BE SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR US CARRIERS AFTER AIR FRANCE MOVE, SINCE IT WAS EVIDENT FROM FALL SCHEDULES THAT AIR FRANCE WAS RIGGING ITS CONNECTING FLIGHTS TO AND FROM PROVINCES TO FEED INTO ITS NORTH ATLANTIC SERVICE AT CDG AND VERY FEW OF THESE CONNECTING FLIGHTS WOULD BE OF ANY USE TO US CARRIERS. TWA WAS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED OVER POOR CONNECTIONS WITH NICE. WE TOLD TWA THAT DISCRIMINATION PER SE AGAINST US CARRIERS AT CDG WOULD END WITH TRANSFER OF AIR FRANCE NORTH ATLANTIC SERVICE TO CDG, THOUGH CASE COULD BE MADE THAT

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FRENCH STILL OWED US SOME IMPROVEMENT IN

CONNECTIONS FOR US CARRIERS THERE AS RESULT
STILL UNFILLED PROMISES GOF HAD MADE TO US EARLIER.
WE WERE NOT OVERLY SANGUINE THAT ANY RENEWED
DEMARCHE WAS LIKELY BE VERY PRODUCTIVE, HOWEVER,
SINCE ACUTE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES OF FRENCH
CARRIERS (PARIS 24728) NOT LIKELY MAKE THEM
RECEPTIVE TO PROVIDING ADDITIONAL CONNECTING
FLIGHTS THAT WOULD BE OF SPECIAL BENEFIT TO
OTHER CARRIERS. WE ACCORDINGLY ASKED
THAT TWA STATE THE FACTS IN WRITING AND FORMALLY
REQUEST EMBASSY SUPPORT BEFORE WE WOULD WEIGH
WHETHER OR NOT RECOMMEND TO DEPT. THE TAKING OF
ANY FURTHER ACTION VIS-A-VIS THE GOF AT THIS TIME.

3. TWA SUBSEQUENTLY DECIDED NOT TO MAKE AN
ISSUE OF THE MATTER. THEY SAW NO SENSE IN
USELESSLY JEOPARDIZING THEIR GOOD RELATIONS
WITH THE FRENCH WHEN, AS THEY AGREED, THERE WAS
LITTLE LIKELIHOOD PRESENT SITUATION OF FRENCH
CARRIERS WOULD PERMIT ANY SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT
IN FREQUENCY OF FRENCH DOMESTIC FLIGHTS (I.E.,
AS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY, AIR INTER IS EVEN SUSPENDING
SERVICE ON SOME ROUTES).

4. THE FOREGOING RE TWA IS REPORTED FOR THE
RECORD SINCE THE CDG AIRPORT ISSUE IS STILL A
PENDING THOUGH NOT VERY LIVE ISSUE TODAY IN
OUR ONGOING CIVAIR DIALOGUE WITH THE FRENCH.
STONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS25889
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740312-0624
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974103/aaaaabty.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <07-Aug-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: CDG AIRPORT ISSUE
TAGS: EAIR, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005